CLAIMS:

1.   A message memory (1) equipped with:

- a logical, virtual memory representation (2) for a configurable number of message-object memories and their data capacity for the storage of message contents,

- a physical memory (3) divided into a specific number of segments,

characterized in that the data capacity of the individual message-object memories and their association with the segments of the physical memory (3) are configurable.

2.   A message memory as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a message object takes the form of a cluster of multiple memory segments.

3.   A message memory as claimed in any one of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that predetermined configurations are defined in the application software.

4.   A method of defining the association between the logical representation and the physical memory for a message memory (1) equipped with:

- a logical, virtual memory representation (2) for message-object memories with a plurality of data fields for the storage of message contents,

- a physical memory (3) divided into a specific number of segments,

characterized by the following steps:

• determination of the length of a message content in bytes,

• selection of a number of memory segments per cluster as a function of the byte length of the message content, wherein a cluster forms a message-object memory.

5.   A use of a message memory as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 in applications in the automotive sector or in data processing.